

## IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

### Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A recording apparatus of a helical scan type capable of recording data as inclined tracks onto a tape-shaped recording medium, comprising:

a rotary drum having N recording heads ~~(where N is a plural number)~~ on a circumference thereof;

a first series code generating means for generating a first series code by adding a first parity to a first data array in a predetermined direction;

a second series code generating means for generating a second series code by adding a second parity to a second data array in a direction orthogonal to said direction of said first data array; and

a recording control means for controlling recording such that said first series code is recorded by one of said N recording heads and said second series code is recorded by said N recording heads in a dispersed manner, on said tape-shaped recording medium,

wherein said second series code generating means generates said second series code such that a ratio of between said second parity to and said second series code becomes equals at least 1/N or more,

wherein said number N of said recording heads are 4 or more, and

wherein said first series code is recorded across a plurality of tracks,

which are formed by one of said N recording heads.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A recording method for a recording apparatus of a helical scan type which records data as inclined tracks onto a tape-shaped recording medium by N recording heads (~~where N is a plural number~~) disposed on a circumference of a rotary drum, said method comprising the steps of:

generating a first series code by adding a first parity to a first data array in a predetermined direction;

generating a second series code such that a ratio ~~of between~~ second parity to and a second data array becomes equals at least  $1/N$  or more, wherein said second parity is added to said second data array in a direction orthogonal to said direction of said first data array of said first series code; and

controlling recording such that said first series code is recorded by one of said N recording heads on said tape-shaped recording medium and said second series code is recorded by said N recording heads in a dispersed manner,

wherein said number N of said recording heads are 4 or more, and

wherein said first series code is recorded across a plurality of tracks,

which are formed by one of said N recording heads.